



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Q.B.

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

QMI2/0104

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/853,323	05/08/97	011	NGUYEN, G	3723 01/04/01
First Named Applicant	TALIEH,		35 USC 154 (b) term ext. =	0 Days.

TITLE OF INVENTION LINEAR POLISHER AND METHOD FOR SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER PLANARIZATION

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEES DUE	DATE DUE
3	451-041.000	A29	UTILITY	NO	\$1240.00	04/04/01

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT.
PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS
APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or

B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

Notice of Allowability

Application No. 08/853,323	Applicant(s) Talieh et al.
Examiner Nguyen	Group Art Unit 3723



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

This communication is responsive to the applicant's amendment filed on November 8, 2000.

The allowed claim(s) is/are 32, 34, and 36-44

The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 5.

including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Examiner's Amendment/Comment

Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the specific limitations of "a belt forming a closed loop; at least one non-abrasive polishing pad mounted on the belt, the non-abrasive polishing pad configured to receive a polishing slurry suitable for use in chemical mechanical planarization of the semiconductor wafer, wherein the non-abrasive polishing pad polishes a surface of the semiconductor wafer with the polishing slurry; and wherein said belt is formed of metal" are not anticipated or made obvious by the prior art in the examiner's opinion. For example, Japanese Patent Publication '256 discloses an endless polishing belt assembly consisting of an endless belt made of soft artificial leather. Hunter '679 discloses a metal abrasive belt in Fig. 2, comprising abrasive regions 20 and non-abrasive regions 22 selectively formed on the continuous metal belt 12. However, the prior art of record fails to teach a polishing pad assembly for polishing a semiconductor wafer comprising "a belt forming a closed loop; at least one non-abrasive polishing pad mounted on the belt, the non-abrasive polishing pad configured to receive a polishing slurry suitable for use in chemical mechanical planarization of the semiconductor wafer, wherein the non-abrasive polishing pad polishes a surface of the semiconductor wafer with the polishing slurry; and wherein said belt is formed of metal".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-0163. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM-3:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Hail, can be reached at (703) 308-2687. The fax number for this Group is (703) 305-3579. An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist at (703) 308-1148.

George Nguyen
Patent Examiner
George Nguyen

01/03/01



Joseph J. Hail, III
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3700

ATTACHMENT TO AND MODIFICATION OF
NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY (PTO-37)
(November, 2000)

**NO EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE PERMITTED TO FILE
CORRECTED OR FORMAL DRAWINGS, OR A SUBSTITUTE
OATH OR DECLARATION**, notwithstanding any indication to the
contrary in the attached Notice of Allowability (PTO-37).

If the following language appears on the attached Notice of Allowability, the
portion lined through below is of no force and effect and is to be ignored¹:

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to
EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to comply will result in
ABANDONMENT of this application. ~~Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)~~

Similar language appearing in any attachments to the Notice of Allowability,
such as in an Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in a Notice of
Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, is also to be ignored.

¹ The language which is crossed out is contrary to amended 37 CFR 1.85(c) and 1.136. See "Changes to Implement the Patent Business Goals", 65 Fed. Reg. 54603, 54629, 54641, 54670, 54674 (September 8, 2000), 1238 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 77, 99, 110, 135, 139 (September 19, 2000).